

ERSIDE News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Aug. 2, 2007

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Riverside offers day for public safety heroes

RIVERSIDE, Calif. -- The public is invited to share the experience of police, fire and military at the city municipal airport from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday.

"Neighborhood Leaders to National Heroes" sponsored by the Riverside Police Department will feature demonstrations and exhibits from neighborhood public safety programs, the police department, the fire department, the Riverside County Sheriff, the California Highway Patrol, California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Forestry, as well as from the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

Retired Army Col. Danny McKnight, whose exploits were the basis for the film "Black Hawk Down," will speak at 11 a.m. A police working dog demonstration takes place at 1 p.m.

The free event kicks off several days of Riverside neighborhood-related activities held in conjunction with the National Night Out on Tuesday. The National Night Out is an annual nationwide crime awareness and neighborhood organizing campaign.

On Sunday, the police continue the celebration with a Cops vs. Kids basketball game held from 6 to 8 p.m. at Hunt Park, 4015 Jackson Street. There will be a three-point and free throw contest during halftime and a basketball clinic at 5 p.m. sponsored by the UCR Men's Basketball Team. Prizes will be given away, as well.

"This is a celebration of all whose vigilance helps protect our safety – neighborhood watch volunteers; city, county and state police; federal agents and military services," said Riverside Community Services Group Lt. Tim Bacon. "They watch over us every day."